IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of: NAKANO, Masakazu, et al.

Group Art Unit: 2874

Serial No.: 10/608,211

Examiner: Sung H. Pak

Filed: June 30, 2003

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 7674

FOR: OPTICAL FIXED ATTENUATOR AND PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR

PRODUCING THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAILSTOP AF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 30, 2005

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated **September 13, 2005**, extended to **January 13, 2006** by a one-month Petition for Extension of Time, entry of the following amendments and remarks, further examination, and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.